



American Public Power Association

News

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APPA ENDORSES NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C., July 31, 2006 -- "Public power systems have a strong commitment to energy efficiency as part of their community service mission," American Public Power Association President & CEO Alan H. Richardson said in endorsing the National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency released today at the summer meeting of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners.

Richardson was one of several members of the National Action Plan's industry observer group. A number of public power systems were part of the plan's Leadership Group that worked with the U.S. Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Agency to develop recommendations for overcoming barriers to and spurring investment in energy efficiency.

Richardson pledged APPA's commitment to promoting the National Action Plan among the nation's more than 2,000 not-for-profit, community-owned electric systems, and commended the plan and the leadership group. "Working together, electric and gas utilities and their industry organizations can have a significant impact on the direction of public policy in this country and around the world. The National Action Plan recommends giving energy efficiency a seat at the table for resource and infrastructure planning, and that is an approach already familiar to public power," he said.

"Meeting the energy services needs of communities and customers – rather than selling more electricity – is public power's goal," Richardson said. "Public power's ownership characteristics encourage energy efficiency to be considered as a resource that enables the delivery of safe, reliable, and cleaner energy. Energy efficiency can be a viable alternative to building new generation in many instances, managing load in a cost-effective manner, and reducing environmental impacts locally and globally."

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The American Public Power Association is the national service organization representing the nation's more than 2,000 community- and state-owned electric utilities.

Richardson cited two APPA initiatives as industry pioneers in energy efficiency. “The DEED (Demonstration of Energy-Efficient Developments) program has served public power for more than a quarter of a century, funding significant innovations that have had widespread impact on communities and customers. TREE POWER, which is now in its 15th year, was the first industry program to promote tree-planting. TREE POWER participants collectively serve about 20 million customers.”

APPA is also a long-term advocate of a variety of energy efficiency policy initiatives that will benefit equitably communities and customers served by public, investor-owned, and cooperative electric utilities, Richardson said.

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For more information on the National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency, visit:
<http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/eeactionplan.htm>